Targets and Achievements {Physical) under NRQ

The physical achievements under NRY sines inception upto 1991-95 (as on 31-3-94 as under :—

(Figures in lakhs)

	Upto 1993-94		1994-95 (Upto 31-8-94)	
	Target	Ach.	Target	Ach.
No. of beneficiaries assisted to set up micro-enterprises	5.04	5.31	1.20	0.6
Persons trained/undergoing training under SUME	1.42	1.20	0.40	0.20
Mandays of work generated under SUME	372.42	343.68	35.00	27.19
No. of dwelling units upgraded in progress under SHASU	6.40	3·12	1.60	0.60
Mandays of work generated under SHASU	433.22	131.64	65.00	—
Persons trained/undergoing training under SHASU	0.94	0.45	0.15	—

Growth of unemployment and structural reforms

3216, DR. B. B. DUTTA: Will the Minister of PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION be pleased to state:

(a) growth of employment during the last three years;

(b) how far the structural reforms have helped in generating employment; and

(c) how Government propose to make structural reforms more employment oriented?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI GIRIDHAR GAMANG): (a) According to tentative estimates made, about 19.26 million additional employment opportunities or an average of 6.5 million per year implying an annual average growth of 2.12 per cent are likely to have been: generated during the first three years of the Eighth Plan.

(b) and (c) The effect of structural reforms en employment has not been assessed. However, it is seen that the rate of employment growth has been higher during the last three years (1992—95) than in the preceding seven year period. Structural reforms are expected to lead to an increase in employment growth by moving the economy to a higher and more employment intensive growth path.

Utilisation of funds under MPLADS

3217. SHRI MAHESHWAR SINGH: Will the Minister of PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the amounts sanctioned for all the schemes under the MPs Local Area Development Scheme have since been utilised during the year 1993-94;

(b) the details regarding the amounts sanctioned, the dates of sanctions for each scheme as well as the department-wise break-up of amounts and their dates on which the District Magistrate has provided these amounts to the depart-

ments alongwith upto date department-wise position of the development work; and

(c) whether various Departments have started construction works on approved schemes for the year 1994-95, if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI GIRIDHAR GAMANG): (a) to (c) Information is being collected and the same will be laid on the Table of the House.

People below poverty lines

3218. SHRI KRISHAN LAL SHARMA: Will the Minister of PLANNING. AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that according to the findings of an export group set up by the Planning Commission 39.34 Per cent of the people of the country were below poverty line in 1987-88 whereas the official figures put the percentage at 29.9 per cent;

(b) if so, the reasons of difference in) figured;

(c) whether the on-going economic reforms in the country have contributed in reducing the poverty level; and

(d) if so, to what extent?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI GIRIDHAR GAMANG): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The variation in the two estimates is due to the differences in the methodology of estimation.

(c) and (d) The estimates of poverty are made using the data of quinquennial survey of household consumer expenditure. The last two such surveys were held for the years 1987-88 and 1993-94. Results of 1993-94 survey done in the post reform period are not available.

Replacement of microprocessors and data entry machines

3219. DR. SHRIKANT RAMCHANDRA JICHKAR: Will the Minister of PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Department of Statistics has taken a decision to replace all the existing microprocessors and data entry machines in its Data Processing Centres under the pretext that they have become, obsolete and will have to be replaced by latest model microprocessors and data entry terminals.

(b) if so, what is the amount of loss caused by discarding the old machines;

(c) when were the machines now being discarded were purchased and at what cost;

(d) whether the machines now being installed were also available in the past; if so, why these were not purchased;

(e) what is the guarantee that the present new models being installed will not get obsolete very soon;

(f) whether any models more latest than those being installed do exist in the market; and

(g) if so, whether Government will review its decision?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI GIRIDHAR GAMANG): (a) to (g) The machines in reference were purchased at a cost of Rs. 77.76 lakhs in 1985-86. They were purchased from UPTRON INDIA LIMITED which is a Public Sector Undertaking.

Over a period of time, any machine does get old and become obsolete. In the field of electronics, as is well known, the rate of obsolescence is particularly high. In this case, the machines were declared to be obsolete and unserviceable